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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1723**

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 03715.0101

In re Application of:)
AIMAR et al.) Group Art Unit: 1723
Application No.: 10/021,498) Examiner: K. Menon
Filed: December 19, 2001)
For: PROCESS FOR DEPLETING) **Mail Stop AF**
MONOVALENT CATIONS FROM)
A WATER INTENDED FOR)
NUTRITIONAL PURPOSES)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed September 11, 2003, the period for response having been extended to February 11, 2004 by a request for extension of two months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.

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